

APPENDIX B FIRE DISTRICT INTERVIEW DATA BY DISTRICT JANUARY 2002

COEUR D' ALENE FIRE

Key problems/threats related to wildland urban interface fires

- Residential impacts key for Coeur d' Alene.
- People who don't realize they are living in a wildland urban interface because their homes are in the city limits.
- Building in non defensible areas.
- Dense building on steep hills.
- Groups of homes with single road access.
- Marginal water supply.
- Poor practices with open burning.
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Ideas for action steps/projects for the Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan

- Review ordinances to assure adequate water supply.
- Address site specific types of construction requirements through implementation of appropriate sections of the ICBO Wildland Urban Interface Fire Code.
- Ongoing education efforts.
- Purchase and install Smokey Bear Signs (high, low moderate fire conditions).
- Find financing for a good/bad residential example display to put on a trailer to use for a visual way to educate area homeowners on prevention measures.
- Look at adding a wildland urban fire education component to the educational efforts of the Kootenai County Fire Prevention Co-Op for local school districts.
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District Overview

Coeur d' Alene Fire is a department of the City of Coeur d' Alene. Personnel includes 39 line firefighters, 18 volunteers, 2 chief officers, fire inspector and public education specialist. The Department provides 24, hour 7 day week coverage with 13 officers on duty per shift. All professional firefighters are red card qualified for wildland fires. The Department also furnishes emergency medical services. Response time for fires in the city's wildland urban interface areas ranges from 4 to 7 minutes. The current insurance rating is a 3; however, the City is currently working to become a 2.

Apparatus

3 Class A Engines = 750 gallon tank, Class A Foam

Type 6 Engine = 4 x 4, 200 gallon tank, 60 gpm, Class A Foam

EAST SIDE FIRE DISTRICT

Key problems/threats related to wildland urban interface fires

- Fuel loads: thick brush, downed trees, leftovers from Ice Storm 96.
- Access related to dead end roads.
- Roads in timber, single road access.
- Residences in major draws.
- People move to the country for aesthetics reasons.
- Lightning.
- Large residences.

Ideas for action steps/projects for the Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan

- Education program that provides contact for property owners to give information on property maintenance. (Property owners should be responsible for cleaning up their lands.)
- Additional protection for large residences.
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District Overview

East Side Fire has a chief and 28 volunteers with 3 red card qualified for wildland fire fighting. Approximately 80% of property owners are members of the district. Structure fire fighting is provided only to members. The District provides assist only for emergency medical services and does not transport. Response time for fires wildland urban interface areas ranges from 4 to 30 minutes. The current insurance rating is a 6 for structures within 600 feet of a hydrant and 8 for all other areas.

Apparatus

Arrowpoint

Quick attack/Type 4 = 4 x 4, 200 gallon tank, 150 gpm

Type 2 Engine = Class A Structural, 350 gallon tank, 500 gpm, 6 x 6

Type 3 tender = 6 x 6, 1200 gallon tank

East Point

Quick Attack/type 4 = 4 x 4, 200 gallon tank, 200 gpm

Type 3 Tender = 6 x 6, 1200 tank

Gotham Bay

440 gpm float pump

Morgan

Quick Attach/type 4 = 4 x 4, 300 gallon tank, 200 gpm

Type 2 Engine = class A Structural, 350 gallon, 750 gpm, 6 x 6

Type 2 Tender = 2600 gallon tank, 300 gpm

Fire Boat = 750 gpm

HAUSER LAKE FIRE

Key problems/threats related to wildland urban interface fires

- Narrow, steep, unimproved private roads.
- Groups of homes with a single road access access.
- Canyon areas with single road access access.
- Challenge of serving Idaho/Washington border including having to drive around into Washington to reach properties in Idaho.
- New improved subdivisions surrounded by wildland.
- Unimproved subdivisions.
- Fragmented multiple water systems.
- Leftover fuels from Ice Storm 96 '96.
- Public doesn't see how much in the way of financial resources is needed to support the District.
- Trend seeing insurance companies changing to zip codes for fire rating.
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Ideas for action steps/projects for the Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan

- Ask people to put in small reservoirs on a case by case basis to provide back up water supply.
- Require emergency ingress/egress for all new developments.
- Encourage the County Building Department to support fire safety measures.
- Some incentives to get folks to reduce fuel load on their property.
- Reduce fuel load by a selective clearing program of dead trees.
- Evacuation plan.
- Methods to encourage people to leave danger areas during a wildland urban fire emergency.
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District Overview

Hauser Lake Fire has a chief and 16 volunteers with 8 red card qualified for wildland urban interface fire fighting. The District also provides emergency medical services. Response time for fires wildland urban interface areas ranges from 4 to 16 minutes. The current insurance rating is a 6 for structures within 600 feet of a hydrant and 8 for all other areas.

Apparatus

Brush Truck = 4 x 4, 250 gallon tank, 50 gpm pump, portable foam unit

Class A Engine = 500 gallon tank, 1000 gpm pump

Rescue Truck = 4 x 4, Type III Ambulance

Type 3 Tender = 6 x 6, 1500 gallon tank, 150 gpm

Type 3 Tender = 6 x 6, 2000 gallon tank, 250 gpm, portable foam unit

KOOTENAI FIRE & RESCUE

Key problems/threats related to wildland urban interface fires

- Building in wildland areas.
- Access: road width, grade, surface and maintenance.
- Holiday fireworks.
- Adequate information provided to buyers prior to sale.
- Lightening.
- Wind and wind storms.
- Density of new development.
- People often confused about what fees are for and who receives service, e.g. forest protection fee on timber assessments does not cover structure fires.
- Reduced manpower available for wildland fire fighting in September and October.
- Limited number of volunteers for delivery of Fire Co-Op educational programs.
- Water supply to residences.
- Problems identifying mutual aid locations tying up two way radio air time.

Ideas for action steps/projects for the Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan

- Fire dogs who can serve to assist with public information efforts as well as their fire protection duties.
- Open houses for the community at station including refreshments.
- Educational program for real estate industry on wildland urban interface fire issues to assist buyers be better informed.
- Produce on an ongoing basis up-to-date hard copy county maps with current addresses and road names.
- Minimum training standard for both wildland and structure fire fighting for consistency.
- Residential sprinklers in areas without adequate water supply.
- Well marked and posted road and individual address signs.
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District Overview

Kootenai Fire and Rescue covers a large area in west Kootenai County. The district has 31 career firefighters with 20 red card qualified for wildland urban interface fire fighting., There are currently 45 volunteers with an addition 22 beginning recruit training the winter. The Department furnished emergency medical services and is the Kootenai County official HAZMAT provider. Response time for fires in the district wildland urban interface areas ranges from 4 to 20 minutes. The current insurance rating is a 3; however, the City is currently working to become a 2.

Apparatus

3 Brush Trucks

3 Brush Trucks = 4 x 4
6 Class A Engines
Class A Engine = 1000 gpm
Ladder Truck - 75' Tower
2 Rescue Trucks
Tender = 2500 gallons
2 Tenders = 1800 gallons
Tender = 1500 gallons
Tender = 1250 gallons
Tender = 10,000
Tender = 3000 gallons

MICA-KIDD ISLAND FIRE DISTRICT

Key problems/threats related to wildland urban interface fires

- Access to small parcels on dirt roads.
- Attitudes of second home owners regarding the visual environment who hold out for aesthetics over fire safety.
- Water supply in the areas of the District away from the lake.
- Grassland and cultivated fields among forest lands.
- Have to deal with gated, private roads.
- Response time related to road quality and distance.
- Seasonal road problems: snow in winter and mud in spring.
- Density along lake.
- Variability of the lake level.
- Increasing subdivision activity.
- Developed areas along the lake with boat access only.
- No different requirements for very large homes of 7,000 square feet or larger.
- Insurance companies changing to zip codes for fire rating.
- The 911 system has a way to go.

Ideas for action steps/projects for the Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan

- More information to people on what their actions, not having defensible space, can do to their neighbors.
- Some type of leverage for small developers to put in water supplies.
- Consider a program used in the foothills in Colorado where every property is systematically surveyed, the information entered into a data base and from this data base a District can run wildland urban interface fire scenarios.

District Overview

The Mica Kidd Island community voted to form the Mica-Kidd Island Fire District just 2 years ago. The District has a chief and 22 volunteers of which 12 are red card qualified

for wildland fire fighting. The District also provides community first responder emergency medical services. Response time for wildland urban interface fires is uncertain due various circumstances and can be up to 20 minutes. The current insurance rating is a 6 for structures within 600 feet of a hydrant and 8 for all other areas.

Apparatus

Brush Truck = 600 gallons, 120 gpm pump

Class A Engine = 750 gallons, 1250 gpm pump

Fire Boat = 2000 gpm pump

Fire Boat = 120 gpm pump, 25' pontoon

Type 3 Tender = 1200 gallon tank

Type 3 Tender = 1700 gallon tank, 100 gpm pump

NORTHERN LAKES FIRE

Key problems/threats related to wildland urban interface fires

- Outlying areas.
- Maintenance of serviceable private residential access roads.
- Citizen apathy regarding clean up.
- Getting the word out to folks who live on the side of hills.
- Home businesses in wildland urban interface areas.
- Accessing water around lakes in the District.
- Single access roads around lakes.
- Insurance companies changing to zip codes for fire rating.

Ideas for action steps/projects for the Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan.

- Create a model program that is a personal approach to homeowners, visits to all homes in risk areas by priority.
- Consistency between programs for residents to avoid people getting 'different stories'.
- Theme for getting people interested.
- Multi agency strike team for pre order response.
- Keep the LEPC, Wildland Urban Interface Task Force going.
- Dry hydrants to use for urban interface.
- Utility bills and newsletters for publicity.

District Overview

Northern Lakes Fire services the Hayden/Rathdrum areas of Kootenai County. Personnel include 29 professional firefighters all red card qualified for wildland urban interface fires. There are also 30 volunteers. The Department provides emergency medical and advanced ambulance services. Response is 70% of the time is up to 4 minutes; however, response to fires in the wildland urban interface areas ranges from 4 to 30 minutes. The

current insurance rating is a 6 for structures within 600 feet of a hydrant, 8 for areas within 5 miles of a station, and 9 for all other localities.

Apparatus

Chase Road

Type 3 Tender = 1000 gallon tank

Hayden

Ambulance

Brush Truck, 2

Fire Boat

Rescue Truck

Type 1 Engine = 2500 gallon tank w/1500 gpm pump

Type I Engine = 1000 gallon tank w/1500 gpm pump

Type 3 Tender = 1500 gallon tank

Garwood

Ambulance

Type 1 Engine = 1000 gallon tank w/1500 gpm pump

Type 3 Tender = 1500 gallon tank

Mokins Bay

Ambulance

Brush Truck

Type 1 engine = 750 gallon tank w/1000 gpm pump

Type 3 Tender = 1500 gallon tank

Rathdrum

Ambulance

Brush Truck

Type 1 Engine = 1000 gallon tank w/1250 gpm pump

Type 1 Engine = 1500 gallon tank w/750 gpm pump

Twin Lakes

Fire Boat

Type 1 Engine = 1000 gallon tank w/1500 gpm pump

SAINT MARIES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Key problems/threats related to wildland urban interface fires

- Poor access.
- Single road access.
- Water supply.
- Fuel management.
- Black Lake no man's land area density without fire protection.

Ideas for action steps/projects for the Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan

- Identify areas for fuels management.

- Establish water sites, e.g. ponds or dry hydrants with year around access.

District Overview

Saint Maries Fire service area covers a portion of south east Kootenai County and as well are a large area of Benewah County. The District is all volunteer with a total of 55 volunteers. Fire services are furnished to structures and agricultural land, but not forest land. The District also provides emergency medical services. Response to time is 5 to 25 minutes. The current insurance rating is 6 for those within 600' of a hydrant, 8 within 5 miles of a station and the remainder of the district is 9.

Apparatus

St. Maries

Engine, year 2002 = 1000 gallons @ 1250 gpm (April)
 Engine, year 1986 = 1000 gallons @ 1250 gpm
 Engine, year 1979 = 500 gallons @ 1000 gpm
 Tender, year 1975 = 3000 gallons @ 500 gpm
 Rescue, year 1983 = 500 gallon, extrication
 Back Up Pump = no tank, 750 gpm

Ogara

Engine, year 1972 = 1400 gallons @ 500 gpm
 6 x 6 Brush, year 1977 = 1000 gallons @ 150 gpm
 Rescue Pickup, year 1983 = extrication equipment
 Brush, year 1973 = 200 gallons @ 60 gpm

Harrison

Engine, year 1977 = 600 gallons @ 750 gpm
 Extraction Pickup, year 1983 = extrication equipment

SHOSHONE COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

Key problems/threats related to wildland urban interface fires

- Access roads don't meet road standards.
- Widely scattered homes.
- New homes in forested areas.
- Retention of adequate number of volunteers.

Ideas for action steps/projects for the Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan

- A retirement benefit incentive for long serving volunteers
- Assure interest and services for outlying areas of the county east of 4th of July Pass.

District Overview

Shoshone County Fire and Rescue provides service in Kootenai County extends from 4th of July Pass east and a portion of the chain lakes area well as a significant portion of Shoshone County. The District has 7 career officers and 36 volunteers, approximately 18 in the Kellogg/Pinehurst area and 18 in the Rose Lake area. The District also provides emergency medical services. Response to ranges from 5 to 20 minutes. The current insurance rating is 6 for those within a hydrant area, 8 within 5 miles of a station and the remainder of the district is 9.

Apparatus

- 6 type 1 engine's, meet NFPA standards and
 - 2 = 1500 GPM pumps carrying 1000 gallons of water
 - 2 = 1000 GPM pumps carrying 500 gallons of water
 - 1 = 1000 GPM pump carrying 750 gallons of water
 - 1 = 750 pump carrying 750 gallons of water
 - 1 = 1500 GPM pump carrying 1000 gallons of water
- 1 50 foot aerial platform
- 1 2500 gallon water tender
- 3 type 6 engines with 300 gallon water tanks
- 1 rescue/extraction vehicle
- 1 HAZMAT trailer
- 1 300 gallon water donkey portable

SPIRIT LAKE FIRE

Key problems/threats related to wildland urban interface fires

- Fires getting out of permitted burns.
- Unattended burns.
- Lightening strikes.
- Parties and 'keggers' in wildland areas.
- Single access subdivisions.
- Ingress/egress out of areas.
- Private driveways not adequate for emergency response.
- Hillside development.
- Lake homes with boat access only.
- Multiple residences on loop road 20' wide.
- Increasing density of development in forested lands.
- Improved new developments surrounded by poor access and wildland.
- Lack of road maintenance.

Ideas for action steps/projects for the Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan.

- Better fire information for people who come from out of state as they are often not aware of fire wise practices.
- Targeted data to the public.
- Minimum 20' road standard for gates on private roads.
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District Overview

Spirit Lake Fire service area cover both Kootenai and Bonner Counties. Personnel include 6 professional firefighters all red card qualified for wildland urban interface fires and 25 volunteers. The Department provides emergency medical and ambulance services. Response ranges from 4 to 10 minutes; however, response to fires in wildland urban interface areas may be up to 15 minutes. The current insurance rating is 8 and 5 in cities with a hydrant system.

Apparatus

Brush Truck

Brush Truck = EMS

Class A Engine = Extraction

Class A Engine

2 Type 3 Tenders = 1500 gallon tank

Type 3 Tender = 2500 gallon tank

TIMBERLAKE FIRE

Key problems/threats related to wildland urban interface fires

- Public attitude toward prevention and wildfire mitigation problems.
- Large response area.
- Lack of staffing, only two 24 hour people covering.
- Makeup of wildland engines which are old and slow; therefore I. A. capabilities are limited.
- Are population has doubled and people are complacent as there has no been a major wild fire in 10 years.
- Access into old subdivisions.
- Single road ingress/egress.
- Development on large single lots of 5 to 30 acres.
- Unimproved roads.
- Lightening strikes.
- Water supply to isolated lots.
- Limited regulations for manufactured homes.
- Insurance companies changing to zip codes for fire rating.

Ideas for action steps/projects for the Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan.

- Continue mitigation program.
- Continue public education and prevention programs.
- Continue to improve I. A. capabilities through training of personnel and improving equipment.
- Meetings with homeowner associations within the district.
- Model development grant to demonstrate best management practices in Bayview.
- Puppet program with a focus on wildland.
- All districts in Kootenai County adequately equipped to fight wildland urban interface fires.

District Overview

Timberlake Fire service area covers a large portion of northern Kootenai County to the Bonner county line. Personnel include 7 professional firefighters with 2 on each shift 24 hours 7 days a week and 25 volunteers. The Department provides emergency medical services. Response to fires in wildland urban interface areas range from 5 to 20 minutes. The current insurance rating is 4 for those within a hydrant area and 8 in the remainder of the district.

Apparatus

Station 1

Structure = 1000 gallon tank, 1000 gpm pump

Tender = 1200 gallon tank, 125 gpm pump

Brush, 600 gallon tank, 300 gpm pump

Station 2

Structure = 1000 gallon tank, 1000 gpm pump

Station 3

Structure = 500 gallon tank, 1000 gpm pump

Brush/tender = 2800 gallon tank, 500 gpm pump

Brush = 500 gallon tank, 500 gpm pump

Station 4

Structure* = 500 gallon tank, 1000 gpm pump

Station 5

Structure = 500 tank, 1250 gpm

Sagle Street/Carrywood Street = Structure*, 500 gallon tank, 1000 gpm

Note: *Replaced with newer engines + a refurbished 3000 gallon water tender will be in service in May 2002 .

WORLEY FIRE

Key problems/threats related to wildland urban interface fires

- Lack of land management by land owners.
- Density around lake.
- Summer holidays.
- CRP fields with weeds and no fire breaks.
- Slash burning related to logging activity.
- Design and signs on private roads.
- Road maintenance for seasonal homes.
- Road access in winter.
- Some problems with water pressure in older subdivisions.
- Boat parks with fire pits and no road access.
- Need to know when and where people are burning
- Left over Ice Storm 96 fuels.

Ideas for action steps/projects for the Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan

- Public education, an example is the District's current workshops for home owners with video, 45 slides of problem locations in the District, seed packets and informational handouts.
- CRP set aside maintenance.
- Better logging clean up practices.
- Building permit practices consistent throughout the county.
- Careful consideration of ongoing operation and maintenance costs of programs under consideration before final decisions.
- See that joint education efforts have local folks who live in the area as the main speakers/trainers with guest experts available as a secondary resource.
- Mandatory sprinklers for very large residences.
- Have information available for 2nd home owners on the Kootenai County internet site.
- Need to assure enforcement of building and fire codes.

District Overview

Worley Fire service area covers a large portion of southern Kootenai County. Personnel include a chief and 65 volunteers. The Department also provides emergency medical services. Response to fires in wildland urban interface areas is variable depending on mileage, but usually no more than 10 minutes. The current insurance rating is 4 for those within a hydrant area and 8 in the remainder of the district.

Apparatus

Station 1 Worley

- Rescue Truck = 4 x 4 Crew Cab

- Type 1 Engine = 1000 gallon tank, 1500 gpm pump
 - Type 3 Engine = 4 x 4 Brush Truck, 250 gallon tank, 250 gpm pump
 - Type 3 Tender = 1500 gallon tank, 250 gpm pump
- Station 2 Sun Up Bay
- Fire Boat = 500 gpm pump
 - Type 3 Tender/Type 4 Engine = 1200 gallon tank 250 gpm pump
- Station 3 Conklin Park
- Fire Boat = 250 gpm pump
 - Type 1 Engine = 600 gallon, 1000 gpm pump
 - Type 3 Tender/Type 4 Engine = 1200 gallon tank, 250 gallon pump
- Station 4 Rockford Bay
- Type 3 Tender/Type 4 Engine = 1500 gallon tank, 250 gpm pump, 100 gpm hi pressure pump
- Station 5 Cave Bay
- Rescue Truck = 4 x 4
 - Type 1 Engine = 500 gallon tank, 1250 gpm pump
 - Type 3 Engine = 4 x 4. 450 gallon tank, 2 es 250 gpm pumps
 - Type 3 Tender = 1500 gallon tank, 250 gpm pump